

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of forming a slip-resistant texture on an aquatic component, comprising the steps of:

5 positioning at least a portion of said aquatic component in a work machine, said aquatic component having a first surface a second surface which is opposite said first surface; and

 contacting said second surface with a work tool so as to form a plurality of protrusions in said first surface.

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2. The method of claim 1, wherein:

 said portion of said aquatic component is constructed of metal, and

 said contacting step includes the step of forming said plurality of protrusions in said metal.

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3. The method of claim 2, wherein:

 said metal includes stainless steel, and

 said contacting step includes the step of forming said plurality of protrusions in said stainless steel.

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4. The method of claim 1, wherein said contacting step includes the step of forming said plurality of protrusions in a decorative pattern.

25 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said contacting step includes the step of punching said second surface with a punch so as to form said plurality of protrusions in said first surface.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein:

said aquatic component includes a gutter having an upper gutter surface
and a lower gutter surface, and

5 said contacting step includes the step of punching said lower gutter surface
so as to form said plurality of protrusions in said upper gutter surface.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein:

said aquatic component includes a drain cover having an upper cover
surface and a lower cover surface, and

10 said contacting step includes the step of punching said lower cover surface
so as to form said plurality of protrusions in said upper cover surface.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein:

said aquatic component includes a pool step for supporting a user,
15 said pool step has an upper step surface and a lower step surface, and
said contacting step includes the step of punching said lower step surface
so as to form said plurality of protrusions in said upper step surface.

9. A slip-resistant article, comprising:

20 an aquatic component having a first surface a second surface which is
opposite said first surface, said aquatic component being prepared by a process
comprising the steps of (i) positioning at least a portion of said aquatic component in a
work machine, and (ii) contacting said second surface with a work tool so as to form a
plurality of protrusions in said first surface.

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10. The article of claim 9, wherein said portion of said aquatic component
is constructed of metal.

11. The article of claim 10, wherein said metal includes stainless steel.

12. The article of claim 9, wherein said plurality of protrusions are arranged in a decorative pattern on said first surface.

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13. The article of claim 9, wherein said process for preparing said aquatic component further comprises the step of punching said second surface with a punch so as to form said plurality of protrusions in said first surface.

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14. The article of claim 9, wherein:

said aquatic component includes a gutter having an upper gutter surface and a lower gutter surface, and

said process for preparing said aquatic component further comprises the step of punching said lower gutter surface so as to form said plurality of protrusions in

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said upper gutter surface.

15. The article of claim 9, wherein:

said aquatic component includes a drain cover having an upper cover surface and a lower cover surface, and

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said process for preparing said aquatic component further comprises the step of punching said lower cover surface so as to form said plurality of protrusions in said upper cover surface.

16. The article of claim 9, wherein:

said aquatic component includes a pool step for supporting a user,

said pool step has an upper step surface and a lower step surface, and

said process for preparing said aquatic component further comprises the

- 5 step of punching said lower step surface so as to form said plurality of protrusions in said
upper step surface.

17. An aquatic component, comprising:

a body having a first surface and a second surface, wherein (i) said first

- 10 surface has a plurality of protrusions defined therein which define a slip-resistant texture,
(ii) said second surface has a plurality of indentations defined therein, and (iii) each of
said plurality of indentations corresponds with one of said plurality of protrusions.

18. The aquatic component of claim 17, wherein said body is constructed

- 15 of metal.

19. The aquatic component of claim 17, wherein said body is constructed

of stainless steel.

- 20 20. The aquatic component of claim 17, wherein said plurality of
protrusions are arranged in a decorative pattern on said first surface.

21. The aquatic component of claim 17, wherein said plurality of
protrusions and said plurality of indentations are punched into said body.

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22. The aquatic component of claim 17, wherein said body is constructed
of plastic.